Meeting of States Parties

Distr.: Limited
19 June 2008

Original: English

Eighteenth Meeting
New York, 13-20 June 2008

Draft decision on the allocation of seats on the Commission and the Tribunal

The Meeting of States Parties,

Noting with satisfaction the steady growth in the number of States parties to the Convention,

Taking note of the report by the facilitators of the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties on their consultations concerning the allocation of seats on the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea, in particular the proposal made by the African and Asian Groups,

Recalling article 2 of annex II and articles 2 and 3 of annex VI of the Convention on the Law of the Sea concerning the composition of the two bodies and the practice of agreeing before each election on the allocation of seats among the regional groups,

Bearing in mind that the Meeting of States Parties conducts its work on the basis of general agreement,

1. *Decides* to continue work on the issue of the allocation of seats with a view to coming to an agreement in due time before the next elections to the Tribunal and to the Commission, to be held, respectively, at the 21st and 22nd Meetings of States Parties;

2. *Confirms* that, if all efforts at achieving general agreement referred to above have been exhausted, the regional allocation of seats for the Commission and the Tribunal shall be in accordance with the allocations prescribed, respectively, in article 2 of annex II and articles 2 and 3 of annex VI to the Convention.

08-39087 (E) 190608